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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 SY-05 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /064 W

R 072052Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8460

BUENOS AIRES 0162

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: 39 SUSPECTED SUBVERSIVES KILLED IN FIRST WEEK OF 1977

REF: BUENOS AIRES 0088

THE NUMBER OF REPORTED DEATHS OF SUSPECTED SUBVERSIVES KILLED IN CONFRONTATIONS WITH SECURITY FORCES CONTINUED ITS CLIMB INTO THE NEW YEAR. SO FAR, 39 SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE FIRST WEEK OF 1977. THE ONLY REPORTED FATALITY SUFFERED BY THE SECURITY FORCES IN THAT SAME PERIOD WAS THE JANUARY 4 DEATH OF AN ARMY CONSCRIPT WHO WAS SHOT DOWN BY A TERRORIST COUPLE IN A FLEEING CAR WHILE MANNING A ROAD BLOCK IN SAN JUSTO, BA PROVINCE. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS OF OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE, 17 ALLEGED TERRORISTS WERE KILLED ON JANUARY 4. NINE MONTONEROS WERE KILLED IN TWO SEPARATE BUT SIMILAR INCIDENTS WHILE SPRAY PAINTING MONTONERO SLOGANS ON WALLS IN TWO TOWN IN BA PROVINCE. AN ERP COUPLE WAS SHOT WHILE RESISTING A HOUSE SEARCH IN BA PROVINCE. IN SANTA FE SIX PERSONS WERE KILLED BY SECURITY FORCES WHO REPORTEDLY WERE ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE MONTONERO LEADER

MARIO FIRMENICH, BELIEVED TO BE HIDING IN THE AREA. ON JAN. 5 ARMY COMMUNIQUE REPORTED THAT TEN PERSONS WERE KILLED IN CLASHES WITH POLICE AFTER BEING CAUGHT PAINTING MONTONERO SLOGANS IN RAMOS MAJIA, BA PROVINCE. ANOTHER 12 TERRORIST SUSPECTS WERE KILLED ON

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JANUARY 6. OFFICIAL REPORTS SAID THAT A LARGE GROUP OF TERRORISTS

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IN TEN CARS ATTEMPTED TO AMBUSH A MILITARY CONVOY TRANSPORTING
SUBVERSIVE PRISONERS NEAR LA PLATA IN BA PROVINCE. IN THE AMBUSH
ATTEMPT SIX TERRORIST ATTACKERS AND TWO OF THE PRISONERS WERE
KILLED; NONE OF THE PRISONERS ESCAPED. FOUR MORE SUSPECTS WERE
KILLED IN A SHOOTOUT IN A BA PROVINCE RAILWAY STATION IN A JOINT
OPERATION THAT REPORTEDLY FOR THE FIRST TIME UTILIZED AN AIR FORCE
HELICOPTER ARMED WITH ARTILLERY.
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